Architecture and the Landscape  
Fall 2018 ARCH 373

**Course Information**

Class Days/Time: M_W_F 1:00-4:50  
Classroom: Architecture building 200, 300

Instructors:  
Sara Bartumeus (Coordinator) sbartus@illinois.edu  
Christina Bollo (Coordinator) cbollo@illinois.edu  
Aneesha Dharwadker aneesha@illinois.edu  
Claire Gaspin gaspin2@illinois.edu  
Hugh Swiatek phswiatek@gmail.com  
Christian Pepper pepper1@illinois.edu  
David Emmons djemmon2@illinois.edu

**Course Catalog Description**

Building design in a landscape setting; creation of place; schematic building design and site planning issues, universal design and accessibility; principles of energy efficient building design; human-environment relationship issues; and architectural design and presentation methods; required field trips. Prerequisite: ARCH 272.

**Course Overview**

This studio focuses on building in a landscape setting and the creation of place. We interpret the term "landscape" to mean not only the physical land of a site, but also the various natural systems (plants, animals, climate) with which architecture may interact. Therefore, the course deals with a very important aspect of architectural design: how design can enable meaningful interactions between people and the natural environment.

Every structure introduced into a natural setting has an impact on its environment. To dwell in the landscape, the act of building, alters the existing ecosystem. Because of the unique nature of a setting, architecture should be sensitive to its environment. The course will introduce students to basic techniques to read the variable and invariable qualities of the landscape to be inhabited – structure, patterns, texture, materiality, color, light, visibility, etc.- the physical and perceived characteristics that can influence design choices and inform architecture. This sensitivity towards the landscape and site conditions -orientation, topography, soils, vegetation, climate, vistas, etc.- may express itself in the building’s form, material choices and/or structure, in the way the building meets the ground and/or the way interior and exterior spaces relate. The students will reflect on and enhance the landscape identity of the place when designing, focusing on the relationship between architecture and place, designing a building and its immediate open space simultaneously.

**NAAB Student Performance Criteria**

The National Architectural Accrediting Board’s Student Performance Criteria addressed in this course include:

- A.3 Visual Communication Skills
- A.6 Fundamental Design Skills
- A.8 Ordering System Skills
- B.2 Accessibility
- B.4 Site Design
Overall course goals
This course is the third in a series of required undergraduate architectural design studios. The main objective of this course is to introduce students to theoretical, analytical and methodological approaches to architectural design and the fundamentally complex relationship between the built and natural environment by:

- Developing an awareness, comprehension and confidence in design as an iterative process
- Developing a critical capacity to diagnose problems and test solutions while applying a coherent structure of theoretical concepts at various stages in the design process.
- Exploring multiple relationships between analog and digital modes of production and representation
- Improving communication skills in technical drawing, sketching, layout, diagramming, modeling and in graphic, oral, and written presentation
- Increasing awareness of the relationship of structure to form as part of design
- Integrating a basic understanding of landscape and urban design into the design methodology
- Exploring sustainable solutions of the intervention from the implementation strategy to the building performance
- Promoting sensitivity to the landscape and social dimensions of architecture

Learning Objectives
This course encourages conceptual, philosophical, and critical approaches to analyzing, thinking, making, and learning about architecture. Upon successful completion of this course, you will be able to:

- Observe, analyze and map the built and natural context and sensory site conditions in order to understand the relationships of architecture, the landscape, and the broader environment
- Graphically and orally present precedent, site and context, and climatic analysis using accepted professional media to demonstrate their relevance to design thinking and ideation.
- Investigate form and space through physical study models (exploration models) at multiple scales and stages
- Understand a given program for a small public building and site, and develop a detailed programmatic response.
- Understand and develop a site plan that responds to the technical and aesthetic requirements of the given project site and program.
- Develop a building and site response that:
  o meets at least the minimum legal requirements for human health, safety, welfare, and access for persons with disabilities.
  o incorporates principles of energy efficient design.
  o demonstrates in sufficient detail an understanding of structure and materiality as integral parts of site design and building response.
- Represent your work, orally and through analog and digital drawings and models in order to successfully communicate your design concept and its development to a professional audience of faculty, students and architects.

Required Studio Materials
Students will have the following equipment available for use at the beginning of each studio class:
- Sketchbook – a spiral bound, blank 90lb drawing paper, drawing book, size 8x10” to 9x12”
- Drawing pencils – 2B or softer (not mechanical pencils)
- Tracing paper – at least 2 rolls, one large, one small, yellow or white
- Parallel straight edge as well as triangles of appropriate size and number work
- Drawing/drafting pencils and pens necessary for communicating ideas graphically
- Model-building supplies as needed to complete assignments

Additional materials may be required on a per need basis specified on assignment sheets. Students are responsible for bringing appropriate materials and tools to each studio work session in an appropriate toolbox.
Recommended References

Books:
• Deplazes, Andrea, Constructing Architecture: Materials, Processes, Structures (Birkhäuser, 2013)
• Holden, Robert and Jamie Liversedge, Landscape Architecture: An Introduction (Laurence King, 2014).
• Lynch, Kevin, The Image of the City (MIT, 1960).
• Lynch, Kevin, Site Planning (MIT, 1984).

Periodicals:
• Architect Magazine, Architectural Record, DETAIL, Landscape Architecture Magazine, The Plan

Web Resources:
• ArchDaily, www.archdaily.com
• Dezeen Architecture, www.dezeen.com/architecture/
• How to Read a Landscape by William Cronon, http://www.williamcronon.net/researching/landscapes.htm

Additional Reading to assigned by instructors.

Technology Requirements
This course requires the use of a notebook computer that complies with the hardware specifications that were communicated to you by the Admissions Office. It is your responsibility to ensure you have a working computer with the required software installed and functional for this course, including Adobe Creative Suite (Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign), SketchUp, AutoCAD, Rhinoceros (3D), Grasshopper, Microsoft Office.
For more information: https://techzone.illinois.edu/site_Architecture_recommendation.asp

Assignments and Grading Policy

Studio Projects: During this course, students will be required to complete one four-week design project and one 11-week design project. All work will be completed on an individual basis.

Studio Project #1
Solarium and Support Spaces for the University of Illinois Arboretum
Four Weeks, (August 27 – September 17, 2018)
Project Due and Pin-up Presentation: Monday, September 17, beginning of studio
Interim Deadlines as Discussed

Studio Project #2
Collection of artist residences and studio spaces at Robert Allerton Park in Monticello.
Eleven Weeks
Midterm: October 15 and 17
Final Review: December 5
**Studio Reviews:** Studio reviews provide the opportunity for public presentation and discussion of design work. Throughout the semester you will be given the opportunity to present your work on numerous occasions. On a per need basis, instructors will coordinate formal reviews or studio pin-ups. Reviews of your work are provided for your benefit and are mandatory.

**Instructor Office Hours:** You may make an appointment to discuss your progress with your instructor, either in studio or in private. Meetings of this nature are always valuable to both student and studio critic. It is important that if you have concerns, you not allow them to be a burden to you. Any such meeting will be conducted with the strictest degree of confidentiality, which must apply to both sides.

**Electronic Submission of Studio Work:** During the semester, please be prepared to provide electronic copies of your work for your studio instructor, when requested. Requested work will include digital photographs of models and scans of all drawings posted for reviews as well as progress work. The School of Architecture at UIUC is required to archive student work to prepare for accreditation visits that are scheduled every 5 years. Student work may also be displayed as part of the school’s website. Thank you in advance for your cooperation with this requirement.

**Class Field Trips:** Your instructors may require site visits during the semester. Students will be expected to find their own transportation unless otherwise indicated. Students will need to sign a waiver for off-campus excursions before each field trip. These field trips to the site are an integral part of the design process for the various projects and exercises, thus attendance is important to the success of your work as a designer. In addition to the scheduled field trips, students are encouraged to visit local sites on their own time to further investigate and document the context and details of the project site.

**Studio Grading:** Studio critiques and reviews provide an opportunity to assess design progress, identify areas of your design that requires further study or is incomplete, as well as areas of excellence. Grades will be based on both progress and design excellence. Simply completing the assignments is not going beyond what is required to truly succeed in the studio. Your studio critic will encourage you to achieve work at the highest level possible but it is the student’s responsibility to set high standards and continually challenge your abilities. The Final Studio Grade will be calculated according to the following formula:

- Studio Project #1: 20% of Final Grade
- Reading the Landscape + Site Plan: 30% of Final Grade
- Final Review: 40% of Final Grade
- Attitude, Participation in Discussion, Preparation, Attendance, etc: 10% of Final Grade

Course Grades will be based on the following criteria:

1. Each student will be responsible for producing a comprehensive design solution. Evaluation will be based on design process, completed assignments, and presentations.
2. Studio Participation: Daily participation in the studio’s exercises, reviews, and in-class discussions is essential to the learning process.
3. Design Process: Daily work and completion of assignments will be factored into the process as part of the grade. It will be necessary to demonstrate regular and consistent progress in the project’s development in order to earn a successful grade.
4. Outcomes: Ultimately, the student’s success or failure and final grade will be determined by the design work that is actually produced, the skill with which it is presented, and the degree to which project requirements are met or exceeded.
The studio grading expectations shown below should be referred to as a guide and may be adjusted at an individual studio instructor’s discretion. No “A” grades will be given in this class without exceptional performance in participation in individual discussion, critiques, and activity in studio (including - attendance, productivity, and final output). For grade descriptions, see below:

- **Excellent (A+, A, A-)**: Student’s work is of exceptional quality, and solutions to the problems show a depth of understanding of the project requirements. Project is fully developed and presented well, both graphically and orally. Student has developed a strong and appropriate concept that clearly enhances the overall solution. The full potential of the problem has been realized and demonstrated.
- **Good (B+, B, B-)**: Student’s work shows above-average understanding and clear potential. All project requirements are fulfilled and are clearly and concisely presented.
- **Fair (C+, C, C-)**: Student’s work meets minimum course objectives and solves major problem requirements. Work shows normal understanding. Quality of project, as well as the development of knowledge and skills, is average.
- **Poor (D+, D, D-)**: Student’s work shows limited understanding and/or effort. Minimum problem requirements have not been met. Quality of project, as well as development of skills, is below average. This is the lowest passing grade.
- **Failure (F)**: Student’s work is unresolved, incomplete and/or unclear. Minimum course objectives or project requirements are not met, and student’s work shows lack of understanding and/or effort. Quality of project or performance is not acceptable. This grade is not acceptable for degree credit.

**Classroom Protocol**

**Student Conduct**

- Students will follow rules of proper etiquette and show respect for others. Faculty will not tolerate student engagement in harassment of any kind, including racial, sexual, or religious harassment, in the studio. Any such conduct will be immediately reported to the Director of the School of Architecture for disciplinary action.
- Students should keep their personal belongings locked up and take responsibility for all of their belongings and studio products.
- University statues govern strict prohibition of smoking and use of alcohol or drugs in studio or anywhere else inside School buildings.
- Students are not permitted to use bicycles, skateboards, or roller blades in any of the School of Architecture buildings. Students are not permitted to park bicycles inside any of the School of Architecture buildings.
- Reviews of student work are provided for the benefit of all students. Faculty will enforce expectations that each student is present for his/her own review at the assigned time and is present for the reviews of all other students.

**Preparation for Class**

- Students shall be prepared with visual material for each class period. Verbal explanations of a concept are not sufficient for critique without supporting visual material. To that end, an instructor shall not engage in critique of a student’s work without two- and/or three-dimensional evidence of the development of a design, be it in a desk crit, pin-up, or review. A student should not expect to receive design critiques unless clear development of the project has been made since previous discussions.
- Students should not expect faculty to provide concepts, ideas or designs, but rather engage in dialogue to facilitate the development of students’ own original design ideas.
Studio attendance

- Students should be in studio during scheduled class time and be engaged in productive work on studio course projects. Students are not permitted to work on other courses during scheduled studio time.
- Attendance is required at all classes and all required external events. Three unexcused absences will result in a full letter-grade reduction for the semester. Any additional unexcused absence beyond this amount will result in a failing grade.
- Students must attend all classes, reviews, pin-ups, lectures, field trips, etc. in their entirety. If a student arrives late or leaves early, without the consent of the instructor, (s)he is considered absent for the entire class. Repeated patterns of late arrival or early departure will be noted and considered as unexcused absences.
- An absence may be excused for medical or family emergencies only. These emergencies must be supported by proper documentation, such as a doctor's note on letterhead or an obituary. The student is responsible for providing proper documentation for the absence to the instructor, and must do so prior to the end of the current semester. The student is also solely responsible for arranging for materials, etc. from a class (s)he has missed.
- Conflicts with work or vacation, or computer failures are not valid reasons for an excused absence.
- Students who wish to observe their religious holidays shall notify the faculty member by the tenth day of the semester of the date when they will be absent. If the holiday is observed prior to this date then student shall notify the faculty member at least five days in advance of the date when he/she will be absent.
- Attendance is required at all scheduled studio reviews for the full time period of the reviews. If a student is not present at the beginning of the reviews for the class, the student shall not be permitted to present his/her design.
- Students should notify their instructor by e-mail in advance of any absence, excused or unexcused.

Late Work: Students are expected to meet studio deadlines specified by their instructors, providing the required products to the finest level of craftsmanship in written, verbal, and graphic communication. Deadlines for assignments will be strictly enforced, with late work resulting in grade penalties as follows:

- Work submitted late (after the assigned deadline, but within 24 hours) shall be penalized one full letter grade (from B+ to C+, for example).
- Work submitted more than 24 hours late shall be penalized two full letter grades (from B+ to D+, for example).
- Work submitted more than 48 hours late is not acceptable.
- Plotter or other equipment problems do not excuse a missed deadline.
- Missing a scheduled presentation time and/or not presenting at a project review without approval from the instructor is the equivalent of missing an exam, and shall be graded accordingly.

Electronic Devices: All electronic devices including cell phones must be turned off and are not to be visible at any time during class unless specifically directed by the instructor. Notebook computers may be used in class for taking notes and specified in-class activities, not for instant messaging, email or other distractions.

Studio Cleanliness: The production of models and other artifacts can get quite messy and beyond the scope of what university custodial staff should be prepared to endure. Therefore, you will be required to keep your work area and the aisles free of large debris. Students are not permitted to use spray paint, spray glue, or other hazardous materials in studio. A dedicated spray booth in available in Annex and is the only approved location for use of spray materials. The use of these materials within any building (outside of the spray booth) will be immediately reported to the Director of the School for disciplinary action.

Course web page: All course materials such as the syllabus, major assignments as required articles, and handouts can be found in the course web folder located at the U of I Box.
University Policies

Intellectual Property Statement: The materials shared with you during this course are authored by and owned by the instructor, the department, the school and/or the book publisher. Copyright laws must be respected in using these materials. For example, unless authorized to do so, do not share course materials with anyone outside the course.

The School of Architecture is required to collect and archive selected student work for future accreditation visits by the National Architectural Accrediting Board (NAAB). For this purpose or for other uses related to publicity and display, student work in the form of drawing sheets/boards, physical models and digital documentation may be retained by the School at the end of the semester. Students will be given an opportunity to document this work for their portfolios before it is collected.

Academic Integrity: This course will follow Article 1-401 through 1-406 of the Student Code -- http://admin.illinois.edu/policy/code/article1_part4_1-401.html. This rule defines infractions of academic integrity, which include but are not limited to cheating, fabrication, and plagiarism. You are responsible for following these guidelines. If you have any questions about whether something would be an infraction, please consult with the instructor before proceeding. Students are encouraged to discuss the readings and ideas brought up in class. In cases of written work it is best to express the ideas you use in your own words, and cite sources in a footnote, bibliography, or parenthesis.

Dropping the Course: You are responsible for understanding the university’s policies and procedures regarding withdrawing from courses. And you should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for dropping classes.

Students with Disabilities: The School of Architecture does not discriminate on the basis of disability in its programs, services and activities. If you require special accommodations, you should notify the instructor as soon as possible. To obtain disability-related academic adjustments and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the course instructor and the Disability Resources and Educational Services (DRES) as soon as possible. To contact DRES you may visit 1207 S. Oak St., Champaign, call 333-4603 (V/TTY), or e-mail a message to disability@illinois.edu.

The School and faculty will make reasonable modification in policies, practices, or procedures when necessary to avoid discrimination on the basis of disability, unless the modifications would fundamentally alter the nature of a student’s architectural education. Reasonable accommodation in design studio might include, but is not limited to: adjusting project time limits or making facilities readily accessible to individuals with disabilities. It is the responsibility of the student to make their disability status and subsequent need for an accommodation known to their studio instructor to begin this process.

Emergencies: Resource link for emergencies